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SOURCE B.E.I.P.I. (Bulletin de l'Association d'Etudes et d'Information Politiques Internationales), No 43, 1951.

POLISH WAGE STATISTICS BECOME STATE SECRET

An article published in No 41 of B.E.I.P.I which refuted statements in Le Monde as to the Polish worker's living standard, was based on official reports coming from the Central Office of Statistics in Warsaw.

Now, it has just been learned that the Statistical Yearbook for 1949 (published at the end of 1950), used to establish wage levels in nationalized industry, was withdrawn from sale scarcely 2 months after its publication. The step was taken precisely because of the wage reports in the Yearbook. Both the press and the Central Office of Statistics have explained that the edition is out of print.

The decision prevents any foreign knowledge of the exact living standard of Polish workers. In turn, the official propagandists are henceforth free to publish fantastic and ridiculous figures which cannot be verified. In any case, the step acquires particular significance at a time when Soviet propaganda is emphasizing unceasingly the question of economic and cultural exchanges and the free circulation of ideas.

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